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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/844,716	04/25/2001	Carol S. Gruchala	8285/430	1846

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EXAMINER

BUI, BING Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2642

DATE MAILED: 01/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/844,716

Applicant(s)

Grachula et al

Examiner

Bing Bui

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Oct 30, 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 27-59 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 27-59 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to applicant's response filed on 10/30/02. Claims 27-59 are now pending in the present application. **This action is made final.**

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. Claims 27-33, 36-42, 44-49, 52-54 and 56-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shaffer et al (US Pat No. 6,130,935).

Regarding claim 27, Shaffer et al teach the invention as claimed, a method of providing a work-at-home telecommunication service, the method comprising:

(a) receiving a dialed number from a calling party, said calling party being associated with a calling party identification number (col 1, ln 57-col 2, ln 6).

(b) automatically modifying the calling party identification number to an identification

number of a group associated with the calling party (col 1, ln 57-col 2, ln 6 and col 4, ln 28-41).

Regarding claim 28, Shaffer et al teach the invention as claimed, the method further comprising the step of receiving a service specific code from the calling party (col 3, ln 8-38).

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Regarding claim 29, Shaffer et al teach the invention as claimed, the method further comprising the step of receiving a vertical service code from the calling party (col 3, ln 8-38).

Regarding claim 30, Shaffer et al teach the invention as claimed, the method further comprising the step of receiving an access code from the calling party (col 3, ln 8-38).

Regarding claim 31, Shaffer et al teach the invention as claimed, the method further comprising the step of receiving a personal identification number from the calling party (col 1, ln 57-col 2, ln 6).

Regarding claim 32, Shaffer et al teach the invention as claimed, wherein step (b) further comprises the step of sending a query to a service control point, the query comprising the calling party identification number (col 3, ln 39-61).

Claims 33, 40-42 and 52-54, they are rejected for the same reasons as recited in the rejection of claim 27.

Regarding claims 36 and 57, Shaffer et al teach the invention as claimed, wherein the dialed number comprises a private virtual network number (col 3, ln 24-38).

Regarding claims 37 and 56, Shaffer et al teach the invention as claimed, the method of further comprising the step of translating the dialed number to a called party identification number (col 1, ln 57-col 2, ln 6 and col 4, ln 42-65).

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Regarding claim 38, Shaffer et al teach the invention as claimed, the method of further comprising the step of determining a telecommunication carrier for the group associated with the calling party (col 3, ln 24-61).

Claims 39 and 58-59, they are rejected for the same reasons as recited in the rejection of claim 38.

Regarding claims 44-45, there is provided by Shaffer et al a system which comprises appropriate means for carrying out the method according to claim 27.

Claims 46-49, they are rejected for the same reasons as recited in the rejection of claim 28.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

3. Claims 34-35, 43, 50-51 and 55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaffer et al '935 as applied in claim 27, and further in view of London (US Pat No. 5,590,184).

Regarding claims 34 and 50, Shaffer et al teach the invention substantially as claimed, with the exception of providing the step of sending the modified calling party identification number to a called party associated with the dialed number. However, it is obvious that Shaffer et al suggest the modified number is a number of a group that translated (modified) from a work-at-home agent's station number (col 1, ln 57-col 2, ln 6 and col 4, ln 28-41). London teaches a number modified from caller identification

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number to be sent to a caller-id display unit associated with a called party (Abstract and col 3, ln 8-42).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use the Caller-ID service as taught by London that enables the work-at-home system of Shaffer et al to send the identification of business group in place of the agent's identification to a recipient called party.

Regarding claims 35 and 51, Shaffer et al teach the invention substantially as claimed, with the exception of providing the step of sending the modified calling party identification number to a called party associated with the dialed number in response to a failure of receiving a privacy access code from the calling party . However, it is obvious that Shaffer et al suggest that in response to a call made to a non-virtual network called party, the only ANI associated with a work-at-home agent is translated (modified) into a number of a group and this translated (modified) number is sent along with non-virtual network called party number to an IEC that routes the call to the recipient called party (col 3, ln 39-61). London teaches a number modified from caller identification number is sent to caller-id display unit associated with called party (Abstract and col 3, ln 8-42).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use the Caller-ID service as taught by London that enables the work-at-home system of Shaffer et al

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to send the identification of business group in place of the agent's identification to a recipient called party.

Claims 43 and 55, they are rejected for the same reasons as recited in the rejection of claim 34.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 10/30/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As to the Applicant's Remarks, Applicant mainly states that "*Shaffer et al does not teach modifying the calling party identification number from an identification number of the calling party to an identification of a group associated with the calling party. Instead, Shaffer et al merely teaches changing the ANI from that of calling party to that of the business*". Comparing the Applicant's statement cited above with the claimed invention described by Applicant in last paragraph of page 2 of the Remarks "In addition to affecting this billing change, the preferred embodiment also modifies the calling party identification number to an identification number of the business", Examiner could not find any difference between Shaffer's invention and Applicant's claimed invention since ANI in Shaffer's reference is the information that used for identifying a calling party, or in other words, ANI is the calling party identification number, and changing AIN associated with the calling party to a business number is

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modifying the calling party identification number to a business number, since by definition that contained in the Merriam Webster Colligate Dictionary (10th Edition), changing is a synonym of modifying.

For above reasons, the Examiner's ground of rejection is maintained with Shaffer et al.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bing Bui whose telephone number is (703) 308-5858. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on (703) 305-4731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314 and for formal communications intended for entry (please label the response "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE") or for informal or draft communications not intended for entry (please label the response "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Bing Bui
Patent Examiner / Dec 31, 2002

Harry S. Hong
HARRY S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER